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SUMMARY OF POLITICS.

REGENT'S SPEECH.—On the 30th of November the new Parliament, which had before met for the purposes of swearing in Members, choosing a Speaker, &c. had its proceedings opened by the Regent, who delivered to it a Speech, upon which I propose to offer some remarks.—It was difficult to foresee what this Speech would contain; what hopes it would hold out to the nation; and yet, we find the language of the Regent as cheerful as ever was the language of his father, even in those only prosperous years of his reign, while England had a commercial treaty with France.—This Speech I shall, of course, consider as the Speech of the Ministers, and shall make no scruple in freely delivering my opinion upon it, inserting the several parts of it as I proceed.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

"It is with the deepest concern that I am obliged to announce to you, at the opening of the present Parliament, the continuance of the lamented indisposition of His Majesty, and the diminution of the hopes I have most anxiously entertained of His Majesty's recovery.—The situation of public affairs has induced me to take the earliest opportunity of meeting you after the late elections.—I am persuaded you will participate in the satisfaction I feel at the improvement of our prospects during the year. The zeal and intrepidity displayed by the forces of His Majesty and of his Allies in the Peninsula, on so many occasions, and the consummate skill and judgment with which the operations have been conducted by the Marquis of Wellington, have led to consequences of the utmost importance to the common cause in that quarter."

In this onset of the Speech there appears to be an incongruity; for who would not have supposed that it was some difficulty in the circumstances of the country that had induced the Prince to call the Parliament together at so early a period? On the con-

trary, we here see, that the Prince has nothing but his satisfaction to express upon the situation of affairs, and that, really, does not seem to form any very good ground for a rather hasty meeting of the Parliament. However, we shall by and by see something which may better account for the measure.

"By transferring the war into the interior, and by the glorious victory of Salamanca, the enemy has been compelled to raise the siege of Cadiz, and the Southern provinces of Spain have been delivered from the arms of France; although I cannot but regret that the efforts of the enemy have rendered it necessary to withdraw from the siege of Burgos, and evacuate Madrid. These efforts, nevertheless, have been attended with important sacrifices on their part, which must materially contribute to extend the resources and facilitate the exertions of the Spanish Nation.—I am confident I may rely on your affording every assistance in support of the great contest which has first given to the Continent of Europe the example of persevering and successful resistance to the power of France, and on which not only the independence of the Nations of the Peninsula, but the best interests of His Majesty's dominions essentially depend."

So far am I from believing that any advantages have been gained in the Peninsula, that I am pretty certain that the cause of England in those countries has, during the last year, lost ground. It is true, that, by the valour of our countrymen, victories have been gained, and glorious victories they were, because they were gained over valiant armies, commanded by skillful and brave Generals. It is true, that, our army has penetrated into the heart of Spain, and that it even took possession of the Capital; but, it is not less true, that our army has subsequently been compelled to retreat; that it has been driven, not only out of the Capital of Spain, but a great distance backwards towards Portugal. Now, I am of opinion, that the cause has suffered by this;

and I am persuaded, that, with the exception of the Prince Regent and his Ministers, there is scarcely any one who will not agree with me, that, unless we could have kept Madrid, it would have been better not to take it. Who has not observed, in almost every week of his life, that to succeed in a small degree, and to be able to hold your ground, is far preferable to succeeding to a very great extent, if you are compelled to abandon any considerable portion of what you have obtained. The man who is gaining a fortune is in better heart, and is looked upon as being more prosperous, when he has secured the first thousand pounds, than he would be if he had gained a hundred thousand and lost fifty of it; and there can be little doubt, that the people of Spain have, at this moment, less hope of final success from the efforts of Lord Wellington, than they had before he moved forward from the walls of the city of Rodrigo. They now see, and, of course, they will now say, that though valour may put him in possession of a part of Spain, he has not, and we are not able to give him, a sufficient force to maintain that possession. In answer to all those who shall tell them that the English army will come to their assistance, it will always be said, *the English army has already been once in possession of Madrid.* There is nothing that so strongly tends to the producing of despair, as *disappointed hope.* When the unfortunate TRENCK, shut up in a dungeon, and bound in chains, by order of the despot of Prussia, the dominions of whose successors have since been subdued by the French; when the unfortunate TRENCK was endeavouring, by almost more than mortal efforts, to extricate himself from his chains and his dungeon, and when there was only one door standing between him and liberty, and, perhaps, between him and what in such a case was still sweeter than liberty, revenge; when, in that moment of most lively hope, the knife, with which he was working his way through, snapped asunder, he, with the remaining stump, endeavoured to destroy his own life, though he was a man of, perhaps, as much fortitude as ever man possessed. If the knife had snapped at the *beginning* of his efforts; if it had snapped at the first door that he had to work through, no such desperate effect would have been produced upon his mind; and I think that we set at defiance the dictates of reason, if we do not conclude, that our friends in Spain will be much more likely to despair

now than they would have been if Lord Wellington had been driven back from Rodrigo. —The Regent has been advised to tell us that the Southern Provinces of Spain have been *delivered* from the arms of France. To *deliver* means, generally, to *set free from*; but, it means further, that the party delivered is placed beyond danger of being again placed in thralldom for the same cause. It, therefore, appears to me, that this phrase is not a proper one. The Southern Provinces of Spain have, indeed, been evacuated by the French for the moment, but they have not been delivered from the arms of France, under which arms they may fall in a month or two; and, perhaps, have already fallen. —The Prince, in speaking of the sacrifices which the French have been obliged to make, should not, it appears to me, have omitted to express some sentiment or other respecting *our* sacrifices during the campaign. The French official report, after a pretty ample detail of the several actions which took place from the time that Lord Wellington began to retreat, says, that we lost seven thousand men in those actions. The Courier news-paper says, that this is an exaggeration. It may be so; but I think that there can be no doubt at all of our loss having been very considerable; to a much greater extent, at any rate, than we can immediately supply the place of by troops sent from home. Of this fact the Spaniards are well aware, and they are aware also of the circumstance of Napoleon being now engaged in a war in the North of Europe. If, they will say, the English are unable to keep Madrid *now*, how are we to hope, that they will be able to expel the French from Spain when the French army shall, from whatever cause, have returned from the North? This is the question which all our adherents in Spain will put to themselves; and I should like to hear what answer could be given to it. In short, every view that I take of the matter, terminates in the conclusion, that our cause in Spain and Portugal is more desperate now than it was a twelvemonth ago. —The Speech talks of the resources and exertions of the Spanish *nation*, seeming to take it for granted, that all the people of Spain; that, not only the armies raised amongst the Spaniards, and armed and commanded by the government at Cadiz; that not only all these are on our side, but that *the whole of the people* are also on our side, and that they abhor the French. —Reader; “most thinking” reader! De

you know, that there are eleven millions of these people? And do you consider, that out of eleven millions, there ought to be about two millions of men capable of bearing arms? Do you consider, besides, that the French, even at this time, are represented as having only about a hundred thousand men in Spain? And do you not wonder, then; do you not marvel; do you not think it passing strange, that these hundred thousand Frenchmen are able to keep possession of the greater part of Spain, in spite of two millions of men able to bear arms, who hold them in abhorrence, and who are encouraged and abetted by all those who are not capable of bearing arms; are you not wonder-stricken, that these hundred thousand Frenchmen, having opposed to them a population of eleven millions, with a prodigiously large Spanish army, together with all the forces that we are able to send, not excepting the King's German Legion, are you not posed and puzzled beyond description, to find out the reason, that these hundred thousand Frenchmen, with all these forces opposed to them, have not been made into crow's meat long enough ago?—"Most thinking" reader, do not puzzle yourself, do not pose yourself any longer about the matter; but say with me, that, there never was, in this world, a nation of eleven millions of people that suffered the army of any enemy, however numerous, to remain for four years in the country, if that nation were heartily disposed to drive them out.—Being of this opinion, I see with no pleasure that part of the Speech which too clearly points at further and larger demands upon us for the carrying on of the war in Spain. I was in hopes, that the Speech would have informed us of intentions on the part of the Regent seriously to set about the work of *Peace*, for which the present circumstances, though less favourable than when Napoleon last tendered the olive branch, are by no means unfavourable. We are told that he is in imminent danger in the North; that he is in a state of great peril; and, indeed, the Regent himself has been advised to tell us, that the enemy's presumptuous expectations have been *signally disappointed* in Russia. This, then, seems to me to be the moment for proposing *Peace*, that is to say, if *Peace* is ever again to be proposed. But instead of this being the case; instead of telling us of endeavours to convert our own victories and the efforts of Russia into the means of procuring us some little abatement of our burdens, we are told of fresh assistance

wanted from us, and for what? Why, for no definite object; not for the obtaining of *Peace*; not in defence of any English territory attacked; not in support of an English right called in question; but in support of the **GREAT CONTEST!** And what is this great contest? Why, we are told, that it is the contest, "which has first given to the Continent of Europe the example of persevering and successful resistance to the power of France, and on which not only the independence of the nations of the Peninsula, but the best interest of His Majesty's dominions essentially depend."—This is all matter of opinion, as far as relates to the best interests of His Majesty's dominions; and my opinion is, that those interests would be much better served by a *Peace*, in which Spain should be left in the hands of the Buonapartés, as it formerly was in the hands of the Bourbons, than by any exertions that we are able to make for effecting that which we are pleased to call the deliverance of Spain. And, as to the "*example!*" The example! The example, which Spain has set to the Continent of Europe, what, to come to plain facts, is that example? Why, it is this, the example of eleven millions of people suffering a French army to remain in possession of their Country for four years; seeing them in possession of the Capital of their Country at this moment, and of four-fifths of its Provinces; though that eleven millions of people have been supplied from England with arms and ammunition sufficient for the equipping and providing of an army of six thousand men; though that eleven millions of people have constantly had the assistance of a powerful English fleet, and of an English army, consisting of, perhaps, sixty thousand men; this is the *example*, which the contest in the Peninsula presents to the Continent of Europe! This is the example of "*successful resistance* to the power of France," in consequence of which success, and for the sake of giving effect to which *example*, His Royal Highness the Regent calls upon the Parliament for assistance in support of the **GREAT CONTEST** out of which this precious *example* has arisen!—The Speech then goes on, according to the report of it that has appeared in the news-papers, to speak of the affairs of *Sweden* and *Russia* in the following terms:

"I have great pleasure in communicating to you, that the relations of peace and friendship have been restored be-

“tween His Majesty and the Courts of St. Petersburg and Stockholm.—I have directed copies of the Treaties to be laid before you.—In a contest for his own rights and for the independence of his dominions, the Emperor of Russia has had to oppose a large proportion of the military resources of the French Government, assisted by its Allies and tributary States dependent upon it. *The resistance which he has opposed to so formidable a combination cannot fail to excite sentiments of lasting admiration.* By his own magnanimity and perseverance, by the zeal and disinterestedness of all ranks of his subjects, and by the gallantry, firmness, and intrepidity of his forces, *the presumptuous expectations of the enemy have been signally disappointed.* The enthusiasm of the Russian nation has increased with the difficulties of the contest, and the dangers with which it is surrounded.—They have submitted to sacrifices without an example in the history of civilized nations; and I entertain a confident hope, that the *determined perseverance* of his Imperial Majesty will be crowned with *ultimate* success; and the contest in its result have the effect of establishing, upon a foundation never to be shaken, the *independence* and security of the Russian empire.—The *proof of confidence* I have received in the measure of *sending the Russian fleet to the ports of this country*, is in the highest degree gratifying; and His Imperial Majesty may most fully rely on my *fixed determination to afford him my most cordial support* in the great contest in which he is engaged.”

In the pleasure which His Royal Highness appears to feel at the conclusion of Peace with Sweden I amply participate; because in forming connexions of peace and friendship with that Country, His Royal Highness has been graciously pleased virtually to acknowledge the CROWN PRINCE of Sweden in that capacity; and has therein done an act which effectually removes all our apprehensions, founded on the doctrine sometimes promulgated respecting the *usurpations* of Buonaparté and of those who have been elevated by him. The only persons, who will feel mortified upon this occasion, are those, who, about two years ago so vilified Bernadotte; who called him, a Serjeant of Sans-Culottes; who expressed their hope, their base and cowardly hope, that the Swedes would cut his throat; and who predicted every thing

unfortunate and infamous to Sweden if he were suffered to remain. These gentlemen, these hirelings, these vile traders in politics, will now lose no time in discovering, that the man, whom they represented as a monster, is now a very worthy gentleman, and they will bear in mind, that to call him names *now*, would subject them to a pretty fair chance of a sojourning in Newgate or in Lincoln jail. I told them of this at the time that they were treating him with such scandalous abuse; I told them that I should see the day when they would not *dare* to speak of my old brother Serjeant with disrespect. My prediction is already verified. I dare them to repeat what they said of him two years ago. This treaty, these relations of Peace and friendship, which His Royal Highness has been graciously pleased to establish between our King and a Crown, the successor to which was once, and not long ago, a Serjeant, and, of course, once a private Soldier, delights me to the heart. It pleases me much more than the treaty formed with Russia; and it does so because I think that it tends more to the good, not only of the people of England, but of mankind in general. It says, in language which nothing can resist, that great talents and great virtues are not to be borne down by either pride or intrigue.—Very different indeed are my feelings with respect to what His Royal Highness has been pleased to say in regard to the war in Russia. And, I can hardly believe my eyes, when I read that the Regent has told the parliament that the resistance which has been made to the French in Russia, *cannot fail to excite sentiments of lasting admiration.* So far am I from entertaining such sentiments, that I am really afraid to express the sentiments that I entertain upon the subject; and I am sure the reader will agree with me in expressing an anxious hope, that *such a resistance* as the Russians have made to the French, would not content His Royal Highness in the case of an invasion of England; that England, in such a case, would not be *defended* as Russia has been defended; that it would not be defended by laying waste the country and setting fire to the Capital; that the *“enthusiasm”* of English people would be shown by rushing to the field to meet the enemy, and not by the burning of houses; that the sort of *“sacrifices”* which Englishmen would be disposed to make, would be that of their own lives, in defence of their wives, their

children, their aged parents, the blind, the lame, the bed-ridden, the women in child-birth, and the wounded Soldier who had before fought their battles; and not! and not the sacrifice of the lives of all these to their own personal safety, or out of revenge against those whom they had not resisted in the field.—His Royal Highness has better means than I have of knowing to what extent the Czar will persevere, and of guessing upon the probability of his efforts being crowned with ultimate success. He also is more likely to be well acquainted with the “zeal and disinterestedness of all ranks of the Czar’s subjects, and with the gallantry, firmness, and intrepidity of his forces;” but, I must confess, that, with my limited means of judging, I cannot help believing, that the circumstance of *the Russian fleet being sent to the ports of this Country*, though it may be, as the Regent says it is, a proof of the Czar’s confidence, highly gratifying to His Royal Highness, is no very good proof of the Czar’s confidence in either his people or his army; or, at least, that it is no very good proof of his confidence in his means of defence against Buonaparté; for if he had such confidence; if he could safely rely upon his people and his army for the defence of his dominions; if he were in no apprehension that his dominions would finally fall into the hands of the enemy, why, in the name of common sense, should he think of sending his fleet to the ports of this country?—Let those who differ from me in opinion answer this question.—Nor can I agree with the Speech, that the expectations of the enemy in Russia have been proved to have been *presumptuous*, or that they have been *signally disappointed*. What could an invader hope to do, in so short a space of time, more than to march six hundred miles through an empire and take possession of its Capital? That Capital was burnt, and, as our news-writers have asserted, by order of the Czar himself. Even they, I suppose, will allow, that nothing short of the most desperate circumstances could have warranted such an act; and if the circumstances of the empire of Russia were rendered so desperate by the advance of the French, how could the invasion be called presumptuous? The invader has severed from the Empire of Russia four millions of its subjects. If he were to stop there, has his expectations been disappointed? He has seen the ancient Capital of Russia burnt, and with it thirty thousand of those

Russians who had fought against him; and he has seen the Russian fleet sent off to the ports of England; if his expectations extended further, they must have been inordinate indeed.—What should we say, if, upon the prospect of an invasion from France, or if, upon an actual invasion, by the French in Ireland, the government were to send off the fleet to Portugal, for instance? What should we say? Let us have no shuffling; no *ifs*, and *ands*, and *buts*; but let us have a plain, a simple answer to the question; and, whoever does give such an answer, will confess, that we should say, that the government expected the French, or, at least, that they were in great fear that the French would become masters of the whole country, and that they themselves would be compelled to follow the fleet. And would it be very consoling to the heart of an Englishman; would it be very flattering to his national pride, to be informed, that the sovereign of the country to whom our fleet was sent had regarded it as a mark of great confidence in him on the part of our government?—The concluding part of the Regent’s Speech, as far as it relates to Russia, is rather obscure; but, I gather from it, that it will not be very long before we shall hear of some proposition for granting money to the Emperor of Russia. The Regent does, indeed, say no more than that his Imperial Majesty may most fully rely upon his most *cordial support*. But, in what way is he to yield him support? Send an *army* he scarcely will attempt in the present state of the war in Spain; and as to sending him a *fleet*, that would be a strange proceeding indeed at the very moment when the Czar is sending his own fleet away to England. In the history of all the wars in the world and of all the alliances, an instance of such a proceeding is not to be found; except, indeed, some persons should be inclined to discover an analogous case in the *interchange of the English and Irish militias*!—The next topic is that of *Sicily*.

“I have the satisfaction further to acquaint you, that I have concluded a Treaty with His Sicilian Majesty, supplementary to the Treaties of 1808 and 1809.—As soon as the Ratifications shall have been exchanged, I will direct a Copy of this Treaty to be laid before you.—My object has been to provide for the more extensive application of the military force of the Sicilian Government to offensive operations; a

“measure which, combined with the liberal and enlightened principles which happily prevail in the Councils of His Sicilian Majesty, is calculated, I trust, to augment his power and resources, and at the same time to render them essentially serviceable to the common cause.”

Upon this subject I shall say nothing at present. A better opportunity will offer when the treaty here spoken of shall be made public. In the mean while, however, I beg the reader to bear in mind, that this Island of Sicily is costing us annually an immense sum of money; and that, so far from its having contributed hitherto towards the resistance of France, it has required a large part of our own army to defend it.—The American war follows next.

“The Declaration of War by the Government of the United States of America was made under circumstances which might have afforded a reasonable expectation that the amicable relations between the two nations would not long be interrupted. It is with sincere regret that I am obliged to acquaint you, that the conduct and pretensions of that Government have hitherto prevented the conclusion of any pacific arrangement. — Their measures of hostility have been principally directed against the adjoining British provinces, and every effort has been made to seduce the inhabitants of them from their allegiance to His Majesty.—The proofs, however, which I have received of loyalty and attachment from His Majesty's subjects in North America, are highly satisfactory. — The attempts of the enemy to invade Upper Canada have not only proved abortive, but, by the judicious arrangements of the Governor-General, and by the skill and decision with which the military operations have been conducted, the forces of the enemy assembled for that purpose in one quarter have been compelled to capitulate, and in another have been completely defeated.—My best efforts are not wanting for the restoration of the relations of peace and amity between the two countries; but until this object can be attained without sacrificing the maritime rights of Great Britain, I shall rely upon your cordial support in a vigorous prosecution of the war.”

As to the causes of this war they have been so frequently, so amply, and so re-

cently discussed, that I shall not here trouble the reader with any inquiry respecting them. But, as His Royal Highness is graciously pleased to tell us, that his best efforts are employed for the restoration of peace with America, and to add that he asks for support in the war only upon the ground of his not being able to make Peace “without sacrificing the maritime rights of Great Britain,” I cannot help observing, that I know of no maritime right that Great Britain has ever before contended for, and that the Americans call upon us to sacrifice. We have heard much talking about these *maritime rights*; but I have never yet heard one man clearly state what he means by them. The American government say that we have no right to stop their vessels at sea, and to take people out of them; and I say, that this is a right that Great Britain never before contended for, and I defy any man to show that any neutral nation in the world ever submitted to such a practice, or that such a practice was ever before attempted. If there be any of the settled maritime rights of England which the Americans wish us to sacrifice, why are they not named? It may be necessary; I do not say, that circumstances may never arise, to justify a government in doing that which no established practice or principle warrants; but then, let it be avowed; let us know what it is we are contending for. I wish to see the rights for which we contend explicitly stated, and, then we might enter upon the discussion with some prospect of arriving at the truth.—His Royal Highness complains of attempts at “seduction,” on the part of the Americans. This phrase, with due submission, is badly chosen. It was not an attempt at seduction, which implies something secret or underhanded; whereas that which the Yankees did was open and in the face of day; it was an act of war; it was by open proclamation after a declaration of war; it was an invitation, but no attempt at seduction. The term seduction is properly applied, when a government is base enough, while at peace and in apparent amity with another, to endeavour, by the means of bribes or otherwise, to seduce the citizens or subjects of that other; an act of which none but the very vilest and most corrupt governments, in the days of their decline, when, like old bawds, they resort to all sorts of quackery in order to prop up a rotten constitution a little longer, are ever guilty; an act, in short, which is never resorted to but by

men who ought to make their exit from the gallows tree.—I do not commend the invitation of the Americans; but, it is very different from acts such as that which I have just been speaking of. The Canadians will not be gained over, I am sure, by *invitations*. Invitations will weigh very little with them. They will, in all likelihood, be influenced by their *feelings*. If they have a good government, they will wish to keep it; and will, no doubt, fight in its defence.—The Speech concludes thus:

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

“I have ordered the estimates of the ensuing year to be laid before you, and I entertain no doubt of your readiness to furnish such supplies as may enable me to provide for the great interests committed to my charge, and to afford the best prospect of bringing the contest in which His Majesty is engaged to a successful termination.”

My Lords and Gentlemen,

“The approaching expiration of the Charter of the East India Company, renders it necessary that I should call your early attention to the propriety of providing effectually for the future Government of the provinces of India.—In considering the variety of interests which are connected with this important subject, I rely on your wisdom for making such arrangements as may best promote the prosperity of the British possessions in that quarter, and at the same time secure the greatest advantages to the commerce and revenue of His Majesty’s dominions.—I have derived great satisfaction from the success of the measures which have been adopted for suppressing the spirit of outrage and insubordination which had appeared in some parts of the country, and from the disposition which has been manifested to take advantage of the indemnity held out to the deluded by the wisdom and benevolence of Parliament.—I trust I shall never have occasion to lament the recurrence of atrocities so repugnant to the British character, and that all His Majesty’s subjects will be impressed with the conviction, that the happiness of individuals, and the welfare of the State equally depend upon strict obedience to the laws, and an attachment to our excellent Constitution.—In the loyalty of His Majesty’s people, and in

“the wisdom of Parliament, I have reason to place the fullest confidence. The same firmness and perseverance which have been manifested on so many and such trying occasions will not, I am persuaded, be wanting, at a time when the eyes of all Europe, and of the world, are fixed upon you. I can assure you, that in the exercise of the great trust reposed in me, I have no sentiment so near my heart as the desire to promote, by every means in my power, the real prosperity, and lasting happiness of His Majesty’s subjects.”

As to the *East India Company*, it is of no consequence to the people of England what is done respecting it. That, at any rate, is my opinion. The *Company* and the *Treasury* and the *Bank* will all go on together; and, I believe, I may add, the *War*.—There are two points in the Speech of which I must express my decided approbation; or, if I may be allowed the expression, there are two points which are *not* in it, which I very much admire. I mean the omission of two topics: to wit: the *boasting about our flourishing finances*; and the appeal to *Divine Providence*. These omissions are a wonderful improvement, and I heartily congratulate His Royal Highness and the country thereon.

WM. COBBETT.

Bolton, 2d Dec. 1812.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

LONDON GAZETTE EXTRAORDINARY.

COLONIAL DEPARTMENT.

Downing Street, Nov. 27, 1812.

Captain Fulton, Aid-de-camp to Lieutenant-general Sir G. Prevost, arrived late last night, with a dispatch from that officer, addressed to Earl Bathurst, one of his Majesty’s Principal Secretaries of State, of which the following is a copy:—

Head-quarters, Montreal, Oct. 21, 1812.

MY LORD,—I have the satisfaction of reporting to your Lordship, that His Majesty’s forces, aided by the militia and Indians stationed on the Niagara frontier, have completely repelled a second attempt of the enemy to invade Upper Canada, and that a victory has been gained which has left in our possession nine hundred of the American army, and their commander Brigadier-

Gen. Wadsworth, who surrendered himself on the field of battle to Major-General Sheaffe. His Majesty and the country have to deplore the loss of an able and most gallant officer in Major General Brock, who fell early in the battle, at the head of the flank companies of the 49th regiment, while nobly encouraging them to sustain their position, in opposition to an infinitely superior force, until the reinforcements he had ordered to advance to their support should arrive. For further particulars of this splendid affair, I beg leave to refer your Lordship to Major-General Sheaffe's report, herewith transmitted. I also transmit a general order I have just issued to the forces in the British American provinces on the occasion of this important success, as it contains a statement of the services rendered by all who had the good fortune to maintain on that day the fame of His Majesty's arms, and to convince our deluded neighbours that their superiority in numbers cannot intimidate His Majesty's army, nor shake the fidelity of his Canadian subjects.—Not having received the return of the killed and wounded on the 13th, nor that of the ordnance and stores captured from the enemy, I am under the necessity of deferring sending them to your Lordship until the next opportunity, when I also expect to forward the colours taken from the Americans, to be laid at the feet of his Royal Highness the Prince Regent.—Captain Fulton, my Aid-de camp, will have the honour of delivering this dispatch to your Lordship. He is very capable of affording such information as your Lordship may require respecting the state of His Majesty's Canadian provinces.—Eight companies of the Glengary levy are in motion to reinforce Upper Canada.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) GEO. PREVOST,
Commander of the Forces.

Fort George, Oct. 13, 1812.

SIR,—I have the honour of informing your Excellency, that the enemy made an attack with a considerable force this morning before daylight, on the position of Queenstown. On receiving intelligence of it, Major-General Brock immediately proceeded to that post, and I am excessively grieved in having to add, that he fell whilst gallantly cheering his troops to an exertion for maintaining it. With him, the posi-

tion was lost; but the enemy was not allowed to retain it long. Reinforcements having been sent up from this post, composed

of regular troops, militia, and Indians, a movement was made to turn his left, while some artillery, under the able direction of Captain Holcroft, supported by a body of infantry, engaged his attention in front. This operation was aided, too, by the judicious position which Norton, and the Indians with him, had taken on the woody brow of the high ground above Queenstown. A communication being thus opened with Chipawa, a junction was formed with succours that had been ordered from that post. The enemy was then attacked, and, after a short but spirited conflict, was completely defeated. I had the satisfaction of receiving the sword of their commander, Brigadier-General Wadsworth, on the field of battle; and many officers, with upwards of nine hundred men, were made prisoners, and more may yet be expected. A stand of colours and one six-pounder were also taken. The action did not terminate till nearly three o'clock in the afternoon, and their loss in killed and wounded must have been considerable. Our's I believe to have been comparatively small in numbers; no officer was killed besides Major-General Brock, one of the most gallant and zealous officers in His Majesty's service, whose loss cannot be too much deplored, and Lieutenant-Colonel McDonnell, Provincial Aid-de-camp, whose gallantry and merit rendered him worthy of his chief.—Captains Dennis and Williams, commanding the flank companies of the 49th regiment, which were stationed at Queenstown, were wounded, bravely contending, at the head of their men, against superior numbers; but I am glad to have it in my power to add, that Capt. Dennis fortunately was able to keep the field, though with pain and difficulty: and Captain Williams's wound is not likely to deprive me long of his services. I am particularly indebted to Captain Holcroft, of the Royal Artillery, for his judicious and skilful co-operation with the guns and howitzers under his immediate superintendence, the well-directed fire from which contributed materially to the fortunate result of the day.—Captain Derenzy, of the 41st regiment, brought up the reinforcements of that corps from Fort George; and Captain Bullock led that of the same regiment from Chipawa; and under their command those detachments acquitted themselves in such a manner as to sustain the reputation which the 41st regiment had already acquired in the vicinity of Detroit.—Major-General Brock, soon after his arrival at Queens-



town, had sent down orders for battering the American Fort Niagara; Brigade-Major Evans, who was left in charge of Fort George, directed the operations against it with so much effect as to silence its fire, and to force the troops to abandon it; and by his prudent precautions he prevented mischief of a most serious nature, which otherwise might have been effected, the enemy having used heated shot in firing at Fort George. In these services he was most effectually aided by Col. Claus (who remained in the Fort at my desire), and by Captain Vigoreux, of the Royal Engineers. Brigade-Major Evans also mentions the conduct of Capt. Powell and Cameron, of the militia artillery, in terms of commendation. Lieut. Crowther of the 41st regiment, had charge of two three-pounders that had accompanied the movement of our little corps, and they were employed with very good effect. Captain Glegg, of the 49th regiment, Aid-de-camp to our lamented friend and General, afforded me most essential assistance; and I found the services of Lieutenant Fowler, of the 41st regiment, Assistant Deputy Quarter Master General, very useful. I derived much aid, too, from the activity and intelligence of Lieutenant Kerr, of the Glengary fencibles, whom I employed in communications with the Indians, and other flanking parties. I was unfortunately deprived of the aid of the experience and ability of Lieutenant Colonel Myers, Deputy Quarter Master General, who had been sent up to Fort Erie, a few days before, on duty which detained him there. Lieutenant Colonels Butler and Clark, of the militia, and Captains Hatt, Durand, Rowe, Applegarth, James Crooks, Cooper, Robt. Hamilton, M'Ewen, and Duncan Cameron, and Lieutenants Richardson and Thomas Butler, commanding flank companies of the Lincoln and York militia, led their men into action with great spirit. Major Merritt, commanding the Niagara dragoons, accompanied me, and gave me much assistance with part of his corps. Captain A. Hamilton, belonging to it, was disabled from riding, and attached himself to the guns under Captain Holcroft, who speaks highly of his activity and usefulness. I beg leave to add, that Volunteers Shaw, Thomson, and Jarvis, attached to the flank companies of the 49th regiment, conducted themselves with great spirit; the first was wounded, and the last taken prisoner: I beg leave to recommend these young men to your Excellency's notice. Norton is wounded, but not badly: he

and the Indians particularly distinguished themselves; and I have very great satisfaction in assuring your Excellency, that the spirit and good conduct of His Majesty's troops, of the militia, and of the other provincial corps, were eminently conspicuous on this occasion.—I have not been able to ascertain yet the number of our troops, or of those of the enemy engaged: our's, I believe, did not exceed the number of the prisoners we have taken; and their advance, which effected a landing, probably amounted to thirteen or fourteen hundred. I shall do myself the honour of transmitting to your Excellency further details when I shall have received the several reports of the occurrences which did not pass under my own observation, with the return of the casualties, and these of the killed and wounded, and of the ordnance taken. I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) R. H. SHEAFFE, Major-Gen.
To His Excellency Sir Geo. Prevost, Bart.

*Adjutant-General's Office, Head-quarters,
Montreal, 21st Oct. 1812.*

GENERAL ORDERS.

His Excellency the Commander of the Forces has received an official report from Major-General Sheaffe, of the brilliant victory achieved on the 13th instant, by a portion of the troops under his command, over a division of the enemy's army, which effected a landing at Queenstown under cover of the night. That post was nevertheless defended with undaunted gallantry by the two flank companies of the 49th regiment, animated by the presence of their gallant and ever-to-be-lamented chief, Major-General Brock, whose valuable life was on this occasion devoted to his country's service. Those companies displayed exemplary discipline and spirit, although the Captains of both were wounded; and succeeded in keeping the enemy in check, until the arrival of Major-General Sheaffe with reinforcements.—The disposition of the forces and plan of attack adopted by Major-General Sheaffe, cannot receive a higher or more just praise than by stating that nine hundred prisoners of war, under the command of Brigadier-General Wadsworth, surrendered their arms to a force inferior in numbers, and without sustaining any considerable loss on our part.—A six-pounder and a stand of colours have been taken from the enemy.—Major-General Sheaffe's report of the zeal and undaunted gallantry that animated every offi-

cer and soldier of his army, affords the Commanders of the Forces the most heartfelt satisfaction, and will be a most gratifying duty to his Excellency to bring before the notice of his Royal Highness the Prince Regent. — Lieutenant-Colonel Myers, Deputy Quarter-Master-General, was stationed in charge of Fort Erie, and succeeded in completely silencing the fire of the enemy, drove a detachment from the encampment near the Black Rock, and destroyed a barrack in which was a considerable depôt of ammunition. Its explosion must have killed many. The Caledonia, lately captured by the enemy, was destroyed at her moorings. — Lieutenant-Colonel Myers speaks highly of the discipline of the detachment of the 49th regiment under Major Ormsby, and of the skill and spirit with which the guns were served under Captain Kirby and Lieutenant Bryson, of the militias. — Essential service was rendered by Brigade-Major Evans, left in charge of Fort George: a well-directed fire from that work succeeded in silencing the enemy's batteries on the opposite side, Captain Vigoureux, Royal Engineers, Colonel Claus, and Captains Powell and Cameron of the militia, were zealous and indefatigable in their exertions, particularly in extinguishing fires which broke out in the Court-house and other places from red-shot fired by the enemy. — Captains Dennis and Williams, of the flank companies of the 49th regiment, have particularly distinguished themselves; the former officer retained the command of his company of grenadiers to the end of the conflict, though suffering severely from his wound. — To Captain Holcroft, of the royal artillery, the highest praise is due for his successful and judicious co-operation. The well-directed fire of the artillery, militia as well as regulars, is the best proof of the indefatigable zeal and talents of that officer. — Major Merritt, commanding the Niagara dragoons, accompanied and rendered essential assistance with part of his corps. Captain A. Hamilton, belonging to it, was disabled from riding, and attached himself to the guns under Captain Holcroft, who speaks highly of his activity and usefulness. — Lieutenant Crowther, 41st regiment, had charge of two field-pieces, which were employed with good effect. — Captains Derinzy and Bullock are represented to have maintained the high reputation of the 41st regiment, in the detachment under their respective commands. — Major-General Sheaffe reports having

received essential service from Captain Glegg, the Aid-de-Camp to Major-General Brock; Lieutenant Fowler, 41st regiment, Deputy Assistant-Quarter-Master-General; and Lieutenant Ker, of the Glen-gary light-infantry fencibles, employed with the flanking party of Indians. — The eminent services and talents of Lieutenant-Colonel Macdonnel, Provincial Aid-de-camp and Attorney-General of the Province, are recorded by the most honourable testimony of the gallant General, whose steps he followed during his short but glorious career, nor quitted him in death. — Volunteers Shaw, Thompson, and Jarvis, attached to the flank companies of the 49th regiment, conducted themselves with great spirit: the first was wounded, and the last taken prisoner. — The Major-General particularly mentions the services of Lieutenant-Colonels Butler and Clark, of the Militia; and Captains Hatt, Durand, Rowe, Applegarth, James Crooks, Cooper, Robert Hamilton, M'Ewen, and Duncan Cameron, and Lieutenants Richardson and Thomas Butler, commanding flank companies of the Lincoln and York militia, who led their men into action with great spirit. — The Major-General reports the conduct of the Indians employed on this occasion as meriting the highest praise for their good order and spirit, and particularly names the Chief, Norton, who was wounded. — Several gentlemen volunteered their services in the field, and shared in the honour of the day. Mr. Clinch and Mr. Wilcox were of the number, and the Major-General witnessed the zealous conduct of many others not named in this report. — Major-General Sheaffe had humanely consented to a cessation of offensive hostility, on the solicitation of Major-General Van Ransseler, for the purpose of allowing the Americans to remove the bodies of the slain and wounded.

G. O.

Major-General Roger Hale Sheaffe is appointed to the command of the troops in the Upper Province, and to administer the civil government of the same.

EDWARD BAYNES, Adjutant-General.

LONDON GAZETTE EXTRAORDINARY.

War Department.

Downing-Street, Dec. 3.

Dispatches, of which the following are Extracts, were received last night by Earl

Bathurst, addressed to his Lordship by the Marquis of Wellington.

Pitiegua, Nov. 7, 1812.

The enemy repaired the bridge at Toro at a much earlier period than I expected. I therefore desired Sir Rowland Hill to continue his march by Fontiveros upon Alba de Tormes, and as soon as I found that he was sufficiently forward, I broke up yesterday morning from the position which I had held in front of Tordesillas since the 30th of last month, and I am in march towards the heights of St. Christoval, in front of Salamanca. — The enemy has not pressed at all upon the rear of the troops under Lieut.-General Sir R. Hill, nor have those on the Douro followed the march of the troops under my command: I conclude that the two corps will unite, which, in consequence of the situation of the Douro, I could not prevent.

Ciudad Rodrigo, Nov. 19.

The troops under the command of Lieut.-General Sir R. Hill crossed the Tormes, at Alba, on the 8th inst., and those under my command took their position on the heights of St. Christoval de la Cuesta on the same day; Brig.-General Pack's brigade occupying Aldea Lengua, and Brig.-General Bradford's Cabrerizos on the right; and the British cavalry covering our front. I had desired Lieut.-General Sir R. Hill to occupy the town and castle of Alba, with Major-General Howard's brigade of the 2d division, leaving Lieut.-General Hamilton's Portuguese division on the left of the Tormes, to support those troops; while the 2d division was posted in the neighbourhood of the fords of Encinas and Huerta; and the 3d and 4th divisions remained at Calvarassa de Ariba in reserve.

On the 9th the enemy drove in the picquets of Major-General Long's brigade of cavalry, in front of Alba; and Major-Gen. Long was obliged to withdraw his troops through Alba on the morning of the 10th. In the course of the day, the enemy's
(*To be continued.*)

Extract of a Letter addressed to His Excellency the Duke de Feltre, Minister of War, by the Marshal Duke d'Albufera.

(*Continued from page 702.*)

anxiously desired to come to blows; but these means did not succeed. He ordered

some platoons of the fourth hussars to charge the advanced troops. — Four or five discharges of cannon supported this movement, and two companies of the 7th voltigeurs advanced to support them; but they had not a single trigger to pull. The hussars charged the cavalry in the midst of the infantry in the gardens, ravines, and behind the houses, killed some 50 men, and brought back 30 prisoners, of which two were officers, an English Captain and Lieutenant; they likewise took from 15 to 20 horses. — The General of Division Harispe, satisfied with having shewn the fine disposition of his troops, took, in open day, the road to his positions, slept at Monforte, still ready to receive battle, but he was not followed; he has returned to the camp of the 2d division.

ALBUFERA.

MINISTER OF WAR.

Extract of a Letter from Burgos, of 22d Oct. to the Minister of War, from Gen. Souham, Commandant, ad Interim, of the Army of Portugal.

Paris, Nov. 4.

Monseigneur, — I have the honour to inform your Excellency, that the English have raised the siege of Burgos, and marched in the direction of Aranda, Valladolid, and Palencia, at nine in the evening; they have left their sick in the hospitals of Burgos. — I set out in pursuit of them very early this morning; I hope to be able to overtake them, and oblige them to fight, or, at least, to do much injury to their rear guard.

(Signed) Count SOUHAM.

P. S. I should inform your Excellency, that since the 20th, I have been in a position before the English army, I have every day had engagements with it, and never ceased to harass and cause it great loss since that period.

Paris, Nov. 4. — On the 16th of last month, His Catholic Majesty set out from Valencia to march to Madrid, at the head of the Army of the Centre, and that of the South, commanded by the Duke of Dalmatia. — Letters from Vittoria say, that the soldiers of the French army, on their entrance into Burgos, carried in triumph General Dubreton, who had so vigorously defended the Castle of Burgos against Wellington, in admiration of his fine defence.

Copy of a Letter written to His Excellency the Duke de Feltre, Minister of War, by General Count Souham.

Pancorbo, Oct. 15.

Monseigneur,—Being desirous to make known to the garrison of the fort of Burgos, that the army was at hand both to succour them, and thereby encourage them to continue their fine defence, I, on the 13th of this month, ordered General Manoune to attack the English van-guard, by passing by Castil de Pednes Quintanavides, and to push them as far as Monastino.—I likewise gave orders to the General of Division, M. Foy, to carry by main force Poza, which is occupied by the troops of Castanos.—These attacks, which were combined, have both been equally successful. General Curto, Commander of the light cavalry, has received orders to move forward, before Vibena, on Roxa, to support this movement, and be ready to act wherever needful. The result of these attacks have been advantageous for the army of Portugal. The enemy had 400 killed and wounded. We have taken from him 140 prisoners, of which five are officers; we have likewise taken a pair of colours, some baggage, and 20 horses. On our side we had only four men killed and 26 wounded, and lost some horses.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) COUNT SOUHAM.

Extract of a Letter to His Excellency the Duc de Feltre, Minister at War, from General Count Caffarelli, Commander of the Army of the North.

Briviesca, Oct. 21.

Monseigneur,—Since yesterday we are in presence of each other—the army of Portugal occupies the heights of Monasteiro, and we can see the camps of the enemy. The two armies of Portugal and the North can be in line within twenty-four hours. Our cavalry is remarkably fine, the artillery is very numerous and in excellent condition.—Yesterday afternoon we drove back all the advanced posts of the enemy. Our soldiers have shown a great deal of ardour, and the cannon should have been heard at the fort of Burgos, which still continues to make a most obstinate defence, and which, according to all reports, caused the enemy a loss of more than 4,000 men. It is asserted that the enemy having raised a battery of four 24-pounders, they were immediately dismounted, one only excepted, but which is

no longer fired. The enemy have lost several officers of note, and in particular a Major Murray, of the 42d regiment (Highlanders). I hope that the fort will soon be relieved, and I shall then request of your Excellency, in laying before you a journal of the siege, an honourable recompense for General Du Breton, and for the officers and soldiers who have behaved themselves so valiantly.

I have the honour to be,

The General Count CAFFARELLI.

Extract of a Letter from General Thiebault, Chief Commandant at Vittoria.

Vittoria, Oct. 23, 9 o'clock Evening.

Monseigneur,—The armies of Portugal and of the North entered Burgos yesterday, at six o'clock in the morning. Towards two o'clock in the evening, and after exchanging several cannon shot, the enemy passed the ravine of Buniel, and is now in full retreat, which tend to prove that the armies of the South and of the Centre, are arriving.—This movement naturally changes the whole situation of the North of Spain, and the parts of the armies of the North and of Portugal.

I have the honour, &c.

The Baron THIEBAULT.

Twenty-fifth Bulletin of the French Grand Army.

Noilskoe, Oct. 20.—All the sick who were in the hospitals of Moscow, left them on the 15th, 16th, 17th, and 18th inst. for Mojaïsk and Smolensko. The artillery caissons, the ammunition taken, a great quantity of curious things, and two trophies, were packed up and sent off on the 15th.—The army received orders to take biscuit for twenty days, and hold itself in readiness to march; in effect, the Emperor left Moscow on the 19th. The head-quarters were on the same day at Disna.—On the one side, the Kremlin has been armed and fortified, and at the same time it has been mined, in order to blow it up.—Some think the Emperor will march upon Toula and Kalouga, to pass the winter in these provinces, and occupy Moscow, by a garrison in the Kremlin.—Others suppose the Emperor will blow up the Kremlin, and burn the public establishments which remain, and that he will approach within a hundred leagues of Poland, to establish his winter-quarters in a friendly country, and near to receive every thing

which exists in the magazines of Dantzic, Kowno, Wilna, and Minsk, and recover from the fatigues of war; the latter observe, that Moscow is distant from St. Petersburg 180 leagues of bad road, whilst Witepsk is only 130 from Petersburg; that from Moscow to Kiow is 218 leagues, whilst from Smolensko to Kiow it is but 112 leagues; from whence they conclude, that Moscow is not a military position, or that Moscow possesses no longer political importance, since that town is burned and ruined for 100 years.—The enemy shewed many Cossacks, who annoyed our cavalry.—The advanced guard of cavalry placed in advance of Veukovo, were surprised by a horde of Cossacks; they were in the camp before they could mount on horseback. They took off General Sebastiani's park of artillery, 100 baggage-wagons, and made about 100 prisoners.—The King of Naples, mounted on horseback with the cuirassiers and carabineers, and perceiving a column of light infantry, of four battalions, which the enemy sent to support the Cossacks, he charged it, broke it, and cut it in pieces. General Dezi, Aid-de-Camp to the King, a brave officer, was killed in this charge, which honours the carabineers.—The Vice-Roy has arrived at Fomenskoe. All the army is in march.—Marshal the Duke of Treviso has remained at Moscow with a garrison.—The weather is very fine, like that in France during October, perhaps a little warmer; but on the first days of November we may expect colds.—Every thing indicates we must think of winter-quarters, our cavalry particularly require it. The infantry refreshed themselves at Moscow, and are very well.

Twenty-sixth Bulletin of the Grand Army.

Borowsk, Oct. 22.

After the battle of Moskwa, General Kutusow took a position a league in advance of Moscow; he established several redoubts to defend the town; he remained there till the last moment. On the 14th September, seeing the French army march towards him, he took his resolution, and evacuated the position, passing through Moscow. He crossed through the city with his headquarters at half past nine o'clock in the morning. Our advanced guard passed through it an hour after noon.—The Commandant of the Russian rear guard requested to be allowed to defile in the city without firing; it was allowed him; but

in the Kremlin; the canaille, armed by the Governor, made a resistance, and were immediately dispersed. Ten thousand Russian soldiers were the next and following days collected in the city, into which they were brought by their thirst for plunder; they were old and good soldiers; they augmented the number of prisoners.—On the 15th, 16th, and 17th of September, the Russian General commanding the rear-guard said, that they should fire no longer, that they ought to fight no more, and talked much about peace. He marched upon the road of Kolomna, and our advanced guard placed itself five leagues from Moskwa, upon the bridge of the Moskwa. During this time the Russian army left the Kolomna road, and took that of Kalouga, by cross roads. He thus made the half tour of the city at six leagues distance.—The wind carried thither clouds of flame and smoke, &c. This march, according to the statements of the Russian Officers, was *sombre* and religious—consternation filled their souls; they assert, that Officers and soldiers were so penetrated, that the most profound silence reigned throughout all the army, as during prayers.—We quickly perceived the enemy's march. The Duke of Istria marched to Disna, with a corps of observation.—The King of Naples, at first, followed the enemy upon Podol, and afterwards marched upon their rear, threatening to cut them off from the Kalouga road. Although the King only had with him the advanced guard, the enemy only allowed themselves time to evacuate the entrenchments they had constructed, and marched six leagues in the rear, after a glorious battle for the advanced guard.—Prince Poniatowski took a position behind the Nara, at the confluence of Isha.—General Lauriston having, on the 5th October, gone to the Russian head-quarters, the communications were re-established between our advanced posts and those of the enemy, who, between themselves, agreed not to attack each other without giving three hours notice; but on the 18th, at seven o'clock in the morning, 4,000 Cossacks came out from a wood, situate within half-cannon shot of General Sebastiani, forming the extreme left of the advanced guard, who had neither been occupied nor inspected that day.—They made an attack upon this light cavalry at a time when they were on foot at the distribution of meal. This light cavalry could not form but at a quarter of a league at farthest. Whilst the enemy penetrated by

this hole, a park of 12 pieces of cannon, and 20 caissons of General Sebastiani, were taken in a ravine, with baggage waggons, in number 30, in all, 65 waggons, instead of 100, as stated in the last Bulletin.—At the same time, the enemy's regular cavalry, and two columns of infantry penetrated into the hole. They hoped to gain the wood, and the defile of Voronowo before us; but the King of Naples was there; he was on horseback. He marched and penetrated the Russian line of cavalry in ten or twelve different charges. He perceived the division of six enemy's battalions, commanded by Lieutenant-General Muller, charged and penetrated it. This division was massacred; Lieutenant-General Muller was killed; whilst this was passing, General Poniatowski successfully repulsed a Russian division. The Polish General, Fischer, was killed by a ball.—The enemy not only suffered a loss superior to ours, but have the shame of having violated the truce concluded between the advanced guard, a thing hardly ever done. Our loss amounts to 800 men in killed, wounded, and taken. That of the enemy is double; several Russian Officers were taken; two of their Generals were killed; on this day the King of Naples has proved what presence of mind, valour, and a knowledge of war can effect. In general, throughout all this campaign, this Prince has shown himself worthy of the supreme rank in which he is placed.—However, the Emperor wishing to oblige the enemy to evacuate his entrenched camp, and drive them several marches back, in order to be able tranquilly to proceed to the countries chosen for his winter quarters, and actually necessary to be occupied for the execution of his ulterior projects, on the 17th, ordered General Lauriston, with his advanced guard, to place himself behind the defile of Winkowo, in order that his movements might not be perceived.—After Moscow had ceased to exist, the Emperor had determined either to abandon this heap of ruins, or only occupy the Kremlin with 3,000 men; but the Kremlin, after fifteen days labour, was not judged sufficiently strong to be abandoned for twenty or thirty days to its own forces. It would have weakened and incommoded the army in its movements, without giving a great advantage. If we wished to protect Moscow from the beggars and plunderers, 20,000 men would have been necessary. Moscow is at present a truly unhealthy and impure sink. A population of 200,000 wandering in the neigh-

bouring woods, dying with hunger, come to these ruins, to seek what remains, and vegetables, in the gardens, to support life. It appeared useless to compromise any thing whatever for an object which was of no military importance, and which has now become of no political importance. All the magazines which were in the city having been carefully examined, the others emptied, the Emperor caused the Kremlin to be mined. The Duke of Istria caused it to be blown up at two o'clock A. M. on the 23d; the arsenal, barracks, magazines, all were destroyed. This ancient citadel, which takes its date from the foundation of the monarchy, this first palace of the Czars, has been destroyed.—The Duke of Treviso has marched for the Vereja. The Emperor of Russia's Aid-de-camp, Baron Winzingerode, having, on the 22d, attempted to penetrate at the head of 500 Cossacks, was repulsed and taken prisoner with a young Russian officer, named Narisken.—On the 19th, the head-quarters were in the castle of Troitskoi; they remained there on the 20th. On the 21st they were at Ignatien; the 22d at Pomenskoi; all the army having made two flank marches, and the 23d at Borowsk. The Emperor reckons upon marching on the 24th, to gain the Dwina, and taking a position which will bring him within 80 leagues of Petersburg and Wilna, a double advantage; that is to say, 20 marches nearer his means and his object.—Of 4,000 stone houses which were in Moscow, not more than 200 remain. It has been said a fourth remained, because in that calculation 800 churches were comprehended, a part of which are undamaged. Of 8,000 houses of wood, nearly 500 remain.—It was proposed to the Emperor to burn what remained of the city, to treat the Russians in their own way, and to extend this measure round Moscow. There are 2,000 villages, and as many country houses and chateaux.—It was proposed to form four columns, of 2,000 men each, and charge them with burning every thing for 20 leagues round Moscow. That will learn the Russians, said they, to make war according to rule, and not like Tartars. If they burn a village, a house, we must make them answer for it by burning 100.—The Emperor refused to allow these measures, which would have aggravated the misfortunes of this population. Of 9,000 proprietors, whose castles would have been burned, one hundred, perhaps, would have been sectaries of the Marat of Russia, but

8,900 are brave men, already too much the victims of some wretched men. To punish one hundred guilty persons, 8,900 would have been ruined. We must add, that it would absolutely have left without resources 200,000 poor boors, innocent of every thing.—The Emperor, therefore, contented himself with ordering the destruction of the citadel and military establishments, according to the usages of war, without doing any thing to ruin individuals, already too unhappy by the consequences of this war.—The inhabitants of Russia do not recollect such a season as we have had for the last twenty days. It is the sun and fine days of a journey from Fontainebleau. The army is in an extremely rich country—it may be compared to the best in France or Germany.

Twenty-seventh Bulletin of the Grand Army.

Vereja, Oct. 27.

On the 27th Prince Poniatowski marched upon Vereja.—The 23d, the army was about to follow this movement, but in the afternoon we learnt, that the enemy had quitted his entrenched camp, and was on march to the little town of Malioardslavitz. It was found necessary to march after him, and obstruct his intentions. The Viceroy received orders to march.—Delzon's division arrived on the 23d, at six in the evening, on the left bank, took possession of the bridge, and caused it to be repaired. In the night between the 23d and 24th, the Russian division arrived in the town, and took possession of the heights on the right bank, which are extremely advantageous.—On the 24th, at day-break, the battle commenced. During this time the enemy's army appeared quite entire, and took a position behind the town. The divisions Delzon, Broussier, and Pino, and the Italian guard, were successively engaged.—This engagement does the greatest honour to the Viceroy, and the 4th corps of the army. Two-thirds of the enemy's army were engaged to maintain his position; but this was in vain, for the town was taken as well as the heights.—The enemy retreated so precipitately, that he was obliged to throw 20 pieces of cannon into the river. Towards night, Marshal Prince Eckmuhl debouched with his corps, and all the army was in battle with its artillery on the 25th, in the position which the enemy occupied the night before.—The Emperor moved his head-quarters on the 24th, to the village of Ghorodnia. At seven in the morn-

ing, 6,000 Cossacks, who had stepped into the wood, made a general huzza in the rear of his position, and took six pieces of cannon which were parked.—The Duke of Istria set off at a gallop with all the horse guards: this horde was sabred, brought back, and thrown into the river; the artillery it had taken was recovered, and several of his waggons were captured.—Six hundred of these Cossacks were killed, wounded, or taken; 30 men of the guards were wounded, and three killed.—The General of Division, Count Rappe, had a horse killed under him; the intrepidity of which this General has given so many proofs, is shewn on every occasion.—At the commencement of the charge, the Cossack Officers called the guard, which they remembered (*Muscadins de Paris*), Paris Dainties. The Major General of Dragoons, Letort, distinguished himself. At eight o'clock, order was re-established.—The Emperor marched to Malioardslavitz, reconnoitred the position of the enemy, and ordered an attack for the next morning; but in the night, the enemy retreated. Prince Eckmuhl followed him for six hours.—The Emperor then let him go, and directed the movement upon Vereja.—On the 26th, head-quarters were at Borowsk, and on the 27th, at Vereja.—Prince Eckmuhl is, to-night, at Borowsk; the Duke of Elchingen at Mojaisk.—It is beautiful weather, the roads are excellent; it is the end of autumn; this weather will last eight days longer, and at that period we shall have arrived in our new position. In the battle of Malioardslavitz, the Italian guard distinguished itself. It took the position, and maintained it.—The General Baron Delzons, a distinguished officer, was killed with three balls. Our loss was 1,500 men killed or wounded; that of the enemy is 6 or 7,000. We found on the field of battle 1,700 Russians, amongst whom were 1,100 recruits, dressed in grey jackets, having hardly served two months.—The old Russian infantry is destroyed; the Russian army would have no consistence but for the numerous reinforcements of Cossacks recently arrived from the Don. Well-informed persons assure us, that in the Russian infantry the first rank only is composed of soldiers, and that the second and third ranks are filled with recruits and militia, and who, notwithstanding the promises made them, are incorporated.—The Russians had three Generals killed. General Count Pino was slightly wounded.

ENGLISH LIBERTY OF THE PRESS,

As illustrated in the Prosecution and Punishment of

WILLIAM COBBETT.

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IN order that my countrymen and that the world may not be deceived, duped, and cheated upon this subject, I, WILLIAM COBBETT, of Botley, in Hampshire, put upon record the following facts; to wit: That, on the 24th June, 1809, the following article was published in a London news-paper, called the *COURIER*:—"The Mutiny amongst the *LO-CAL MILITIA*, which broke out at Ely, was *fortunately* suppressed on Wednesday by the arrival of four squadrons of the *GERMAN LEGION CAVALRY* from Bury, under the command of General Auckland. Five of the ringleaders were tried by a Court-Martial, and sentenced to receive 500 lashes each, part of which punishment they received on Wednesday, and a part was remitted. A stoppage for their knapsacks was the ground of the complaint that excited this mutinous spirit, which occasioned the men to surround their officers, and demand what they deemed their arrears. The first division of the German Legion halted yesterday at Newmarket on their return to Bury."—That, on the 1st July, 1809, I published, in the *Political Register*, an article censuring, in the strongest terms, these proceedings; that, for so doing, the Attorney General prosecuted, as seditious libellers, and by Ex-Officio Information, me, and also my printer, my publisher, and one of the principal retailers of the *Political Register*; that I was brought to trial on the 15th June, 1810, and was, by a Special Jury, that is to say, by 12 men out of 48 appointed by the Master of the Crown Office, found guilty; that, on the 20th of the same month, I was compelled to give bail for my appearance to receive judgment; and that, as I came up from Botley (to which place I had returned to my family and my farm on the evening of the 15th), a Tipstaff went down from London in order to seize me, personally; that, on the 9th of July, 1810, I, together with my printer, publisher, and the news-man, were brought into the Court of King's Bench to receive judgment; that the three former were sentenced to be imprisoned for some months in the King's Bench prison; that I was sentenced to be imprisoned for two years in Newgate, the great receptacle for malefactors, and the front of which is the scene of numerous hangings in the course of every year; that the part of the prison in which I was sentenced to be confined is sometimes inhabited by felons, that felons were actually in it at the time I entered it; that one man was taken out of it to be transported in about 48 hours after I was put into the same yard with him; and that it is the place of confinement for men guilty of unnatural crimes, of whom there are four in it at this time; that, besides this imprisonment, I was sentenced to pay a thousand pounds TO THE KING, and to give security for my good behaviour for seven years, myself in the sum of 3,000 pounds, and

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two sureties in the sum of 1,000 pounds each; that the whole of this sentence has been executed upon me, that I have been imprisoned the two years, have paid the thousand pounds TO THE KING, and have given the bail, Timothy Brown and Peter Walker, Esqrs. being my sureties; that the Attorney General was Sir Vicary Gibbs, the Judge who sat at the trial Lord Ellenborough, the four Judges who sat at passing sentence Ellenborough, Grose, Le Blanc, and Bailey; and that the jurors were, Thomas Rhodes of Hampstead Road, John Davis of Southampton Place, James Ellis of Tottenham Court Road, John Richards of Bayswater, Thomas Marsham of Baker Street, Robert Heathcote of High Street Marylebone, John Maud of York Place Marylebone, George Bagster of Church Terrace Pancras, Thomas Taylor of Red Lion Square, David Deane of St. John Street, William Palmer of Upper Street Islington, Henry Favre of Pall Mall; that the Prime Ministers during the time were Spencer Perceval, until he was shot by John Bellingham, and after that Robert B. Jenkinson, Earl of Liverpool; that the prosecution and sentence took place in the reign of King George the Third, and that, he having become insane during my imprisonment, the 1,000 pounds was paid to his son, the Prince Regent, in his behalf; that, during my imprisonment, I wrote and published 364 Essays and Letters upon political subjects; that, during the same time, I was visited by persons from 197 cities and towns, many of them as a sort of deputies from Societies or Clubs; that, at the expiration of my imprisonment, on the 9th of July, 1812, a great dinner was given in London for the purpose of receiving me, at which dinner upwards of 600 persons were present, and at which Sir Francis Burdett presided; that dinners and other parties were held on the same occasion in many other places in England; that, on my way home, I was received at Alton, the first town in Hampshire, with the ringing of the Church bells; that a respectable company met me and gave me a dinner at Winchester; that I was drawn from more than the distance of a mile into Botley by the people; that, upon my arrival in the village, I found all the people assembled to receive me; that I concluded the day by explaining to them the cause of my imprisonment, and by giving them clear notions respecting the flogging of the Local Militia-men at Ely, and respecting the employment of German Troops; and, finally, which is more than a compensation for my losses and all my sufferings, I am in perfect health and strength, and, though I must, for the sake of six children, feel the diminution that has been made in my property (thinking it right in me to decline the offer of a subscription), I have the consolation to see growing up three sons, upon whose hearts, I trust, all these facts will be engraven.

WM. COBBETT.

Botley, July 23, 1812.

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